

express my appreciation to Charles Westerman for his hard work as an intern in my Cheyenne office. I recognize his efforts and contributions to my office as well as to the State of Wyoming.

Charles is a native of Wyoming and graduated from Wheatland High School. He currently attends Washington State University, where he is majoring in journalism and minoring in humanities. Throughout his internship, he has demonstrated a strong work ethic which has made him an invaluable asset to our office. The quality of his work is reflected in his great efforts over the last several months.

I thank Charles for the dedication he has shown while working for me and my staff. It was a pleasure to have him as part of our team. I know he will have continued success with all of his future endeavors. I wish him all my best on his next journey.

FREMONT COUNTY, WYOMING

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, a good measure of the strength of a community is how they come together in a crisis. From June 4 to June 18, 2010, Fremont County, WY, experienced a 100-year flood. The spring runoff from the snowpack in the Wind River Mountains was heavier than usual, causing the Big Wind, Little Wind and Popo Agie Rivers to reach flood stages. Just when the citizens didn't think it could get worse, a cold front passed through, with rain and hail in lower elevations, and three to 6 feet of snow in the mountains. Lander, Riverton, Hudson, and the Wind River Indian Reservation were all threatened.

As the flood waters rose, the Fremont County commissioners led by Chairman Doug Thompson and Vice Chairman Pat Hickerson along with the Joint Tribal Councils chaired by Ivan Posey and Harvey Spoonhunter came together to request a disaster designation from Wyoming's Governor Dave Freudenthal.

As the 32 square miles of Fremont County were threatened by flood, the citizens rolled up their sleeves and worked together to protect life, livestock, and property. Under the steady guidance of incident commander, Craig Haslam, along with Joe Moore from Wyoming Homeland Security, 52 local, county, State and Federal agencies coordinated flood mitigation efforts. According to Fremont County resident Bill Sniffin, it was the biggest disaster effort of its type in Wyoming's history.

It was inspiring to see Wyoming's National Guard working side-by-side with the Fremont County folks. The 400 soldiers, under the command of General Edward Wright and Colonel Luke Reiner, bagged sand, transported folks from houses, and were at the ready for whatever the community needed. Christian Venhuizen, at the Wyoming National Guard Public Affairs, served as information officer keeping the public and media informed throughout the entire flood.

Kathi Metzler, director of Fremont County Emergency Management, and her assistant Vonda Huish opened a temporary office so they could manage the logistics that is part and parcel with coordinating so many different agencies. It was comforting having Kathi and Vonda close by to orchestrate the flurry of activity.

We can only estimate the number of hours volunteers devoted to keeping the flood waters at bay. Some estimate 35,000 hours, others say it might be up to 50,000 hours. Almost a half million sandbags were filled. Folks donated their pickups and trailers to haul property and livestock to higher ground. This is quite an investment for a county with only 36,000 people.

While the help of the government agencies was so important, neighbors helping neighbors kept damage to a minimum. Jim Buline and his son Robert, Lee Hansen and his son Jace, Travis Becker and his son Lars are a few of the many neighbors and friends who helped Charlie and Linda Griffin save their home on their historic ranch. Students from Wyoming Catholic College devoted all their time to help anyone in need. Jeri Trebelock and her staff from the Popo Agie Conservation District organized and worked with volunteers for bank stabilization to protect the Hunhke and Guschewsky homes as well as a mobile home park. In addition, all the Popo Estates landowners came together helping each other with sandbagging to protect their homes. These are just a few examples of the community spirit demonstrated by the folks in Fremont County.

On Thursday, August 5, 2010, folks from Fremont County will gather at Mr. D's Grocery Store for a "We Survived the Flood of 2010" party. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the citizens of Fremont County and the 52 local, State, and Federal agencies for a job well done.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING JOE REBER

• Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to a great Montanan who led a remarkable life. Joe Reber was deeply involved in public service and the communities he called home in Montana; he passed away on July 23 at the age of 91. Joe lived life to the fullest and I feel lucky to have had him as a dear friend for so long.

Joe was born in Butte in 1919. He grew up in a working class family and is a great symbol of the Montana spirit of hard work and overcoming adversity. His first job as a youngster was selling newspapers on the street in Butte to help support his family. Although Joe never finished high school or went to college, he was a successful businessman and community leader whose experiences gave him many stories to tell over his 91 colorful years.

Joe served his country honorably during World War II. He volunteered in the Merchant Marine and the Coast Guard, serving as a staff officer in the Pacific theater.

Despite his humble upbringing in the Mining City, Joe became a successful entrepreneur. He started his own plumbing company in Helena, which he later expanded into electrical and general construction. He then went on to form the Reber Realty and Development Company and the Capitol Wholesale Plumbing Supply Company, among other businesses he owned. Even with all this success Joe never forgot his working class roots, growing up the son of a miner in Butte.

Joe was very active in public service on a local and national level. He served as treasurer for the Montana Democratic Party, was a State senator, was chairman of the Montana Board of Natural Resources, served on the State Board of Investments, and was a delegate to a United Nations World Food Program conference. One of his proudest accomplishments was passing legislation in the State legislature that created a vocational education program. Joe recognized the importance of education and knew how vital the program would be for economic development and to provide meaningful opportunities for young people across Montana.

Over the years Joe got to know and befriend some very important folks. He hosted John F. Kennedy at his Helena home during the 1960 Presidential campaign. He also accompanied Ted Kennedy at the Eastern Montana Fair in Miles City in 1960 where Ted took his famous ride on a bronc. He met many other Presidents, dignitaries, and celebrities along the way. These and many other stories are recounted in Joe's autobiography, "The Paperboy," which he published in 2007.

Joe shared his experiences with his wife of 37 years, Rosalyn, who passed away in May. Today I send my heartfelt condolences to Joe's children—Joe, Bobbie, Dianna, Bryant, and Susie—and the entire Reber family for their loss. They can truly be proud of the life their father lived and take comfort in knowing that he helped so many others along the way.

I have always enjoyed visiting with Joe over the years and working with him on issues important to Montana. I will miss his friendship as will folks all across Big Sky country. ●

TRIBUTE TO DR. ROBERT A. CARTLIDGE

• Mr. BURRIS. Mr. President, every so often, in the pantheon of scientific achievement, there comes an individual with both the intellect and the drive to further the course of scientific thought, an individual of extraordinary abilities, a truly original mind, which not only contributes to the work of modern science, but steps to the forefront and blazes a trail for others to follow.